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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Masaaki TERASHIMA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/981,528

Filed: October 17, 2001

Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: Michael E. Barr

Atty. Docket No.: JG-YY-5111/500569.20078

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Customer No.: 026418

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313


Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 31, 2003.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

<u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u>	
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being:	
EXPRESS MAIL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service on February 26, 2004, with sufficient postage as Express Mail, No. EV 398 728 584 US, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313. Ruth Montalvo  (Signature of person mailing paper or fee)	FACSIMILE <input type="checkbox"/> transmitted by facsimile on [date] to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Type Signature Name Here (Signature of person mailing paper or fee)